

Serial No. 09/973,335

### REMARKS

This reply is responsive to the Office Action dated December 29, 2004.  
Claims 1-9 were pending in the application. No claims were allowed.  
Accordingly, Claims 1-9 are currently pending.

#### Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1-9 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 6,780,840.

The Applicant presents the attached terminal disclaimer in accordance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) to overcome the rejection.

Reconsideration of claims 1-9 is respectfully solicited in light of the above.

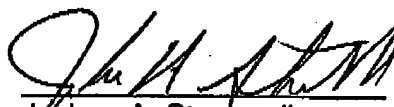
In light of the above-noted remarks, claims 1-9 are believed to define patentable subject matter over the prior art references of record.

Accordingly, claims 1-9 are believed to be in condition for allowance and the application ready for issue.

Corresponding action is respectfully solicited.

PTO is authorized to charge any additional fees incurred as a result of the filing hereof or credit any overpayment to our account #02-0900.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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